



St Michael's Church - Meadowbank
The Parish Bulletin
Fourth Sunday of Easter, Yr B/2
World Day of Prayer for Vocations

Entrance Antiphon:

Cf. Ps 32: 5-6

The merciful love of the Lord fills the earth; by the word of the Lord the heavens were made, alleluia.

1st Reading: Acts 4:8-12

The name of Jesus Christ is the only name in which we can be saved.

Responsorial Psalm:

Psalm 117(118):1,8-9,21-23,26,28-29

The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone.

2nd Reading: 1 John 3:1-2

We shall be like God because we shall see him as he really is

Gospel Acclamation:

Jn 10:14

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the good shepherd, says the Lord; I know my own sheep and my own know me. Alleluia!

Gospel: John 10:11-18

The good shepherd is one who lays down his life for his sheep

Communion Antiphon:

The Good Shepherd has risen, who laid down his life for his sheep and willingly died for his flock, alleluia.

Gospel

John 10:11-18



Jesus said: 'I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd is one who lays down his life for his sheep. The hired man, since he is not the shepherd and the sheep do not belong to him, abandons the sheep and runs away as soon as he sees a wolf coming, and then the wolf attacks and scatters the sheep; this is because he is only a hired man and has no concern for the sheep. I am the good shepherd; I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the

Father; and I lay down my life for my sheep. And there are other sheep I have that are not of this fold, and these I have to lead as well. They too will listen to my voice, and there will be only one flock, and one shepherd. The Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me; I lay it down of my own free will, and as it is in my power to lay it down, so it is in my power to take it up again; and this is the command I have been given by my Father.'

MESSAGE OF POPE FRANCIS

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS, 2018

We are not victims of chance or swept up in a series of unconnected events; on the contrary, our life and our presence in this world are the fruit of a divine vocation! Even amid these troubled times, the mystery of the Incarnation reminds us that God continually comes to encounter us. He is God-with-us, who walks along the often dusty paths of our lives. He knows our anxious longing for love and he calls us to joy. In the diversity and the uniqueness of each and every vocation, personal and ecclesial, there is a need to *listen, discern* and *live* this word that calls to us from on high and, while enabling us to develop our talents, makes us instruments of salvation in the world and guides us to full happiness.

These three aspects – *listening, discerning and living* – were also present at beginning of Jesus' own mission, when, after his time of prayer and struggle in the desert, he visited the synagogue of Nazareth. There, he listened to the word, discerned the content of the mission entrusted to him by the Father, and proclaimed that he came to accomplish it "today" (Lk 4:16-21).

Listening

The Lord's call – let it be said at the outset – is not as clear-cut as any of those things we can hear, see or touch in our daily experience. God comes silently and discreetly, without imposing on our freedom. Thus it can happen that his voice is drowned out by the many worries and concerns that fill our minds and hearts. We need, then, to



Acknowledgement of the land

We acknowledge the traditional owners and custodians of this land, the Wallumattagal clan, part of the Dharug people of the Eoiria nation. We walk gently on the land, sharing it with them as we now work and live on it.

Parish Directory

Parish Administrator: Fr James McCarthy

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Please submit requests for publication by 12 noon Wednesday.

Acolytes: Arthur Lee

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Communion:

Sue Metzmacher

(Weekdays & Special Roster)

Felicity Donnelly (Vigils & Sundays)

Music Ministry

Coordinators for 6pm Saturday Masses:

1st Saturday - Richard Borges (Family Mass)

2nd Saturday - David Foong

3rd Saturday - Prescilla Luzon

4th Saturday - Aneela Pereira

Music Ministry - Sunday Masses:

1st & 3rd SUN 8am - Maree Twomey

2nd SUN 8am - Muntia Gouw

4th SUN 10 am - Muntia Gouw

1st, 3rd, 5th SUN 10am - Mary Towers

2nd SUN 10am - David Foong

Children Liturgy - Elsa Manu

Sacramental Coordinators: Marisa

Squadrito & Liz Mulcare

Ushers/Collectors - Michael Wixted

Altar Society - Marie Bennett

Liturgy Committee - Sue Metzmacher

Finance Committee - Stephen Topple

St Vincent de Paul Society - Jim Lemcke

Catechists - Judith Orrock

Driver Roster - Felicity Donnelly

St Michael's Primary School

School Principal - Brian Story

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Welcome to St Michael's Church - Meadowbank!

A warm welcome to all attendees and visitors to our church! May you find our parish community a place where your faith life will be nourished and you will take up the invitation to share your special gifts and talents. Your prayers, presence, talents and skills are most welcome.

**REFLECTION CONTINUED...**

learn how to listen carefully to his word and the story of his life, but also to be attentive to the details of our daily lives, in order to learn how to view things with the eyes of faith, and to keep ourselves open to the surprises of the Spirit.

We will never discover the special, personal calling that God has in mind for us if we remain enclosed in ourselves.

Jesus too, was called and sent. That is why he needed to recollect himself in silence. He listened to and read the word in the synagogue, and with the light and strength of the Holy Spirit he revealed its full meaning.

Nowadays listening is becoming more and more difficult, immersed as we are in a society full of noise, overstimulated and bombarded by information. The outer noise that sometimes prevails in our cities and our neighbourhoods is often accompanied by our interior confusion. This prevents us from pausing and reflecting on the events of our lives, going about our work with confidence in God's loving plan, and making a fruitful discernment.

Discerning

When Jesus, in the synagogue of Nazareth, reads the passage of the prophet Isaiah, he discerns the content of the mission for which he was sent, and presents it to those who awaited the Messiah.

In the same way, each of us can discover his or her own vocation only through spiritual discernment. This is a process by which a person makes fundamental choices, in dialogue with the Lord and listening to the voice of the Spirit, starting with the choice of one's state in life. Thus we come to discover that Christian vocation always has a prophetic dimension. The Scriptures tell us that the prophets were sent to the people in situations of great material insecurity and of spiritual and moral crisis, in order to address in God's name a message of conversion, hope and consolation.

Living

The joy of the Gospel, which makes us open to encountering God and our brothers and sisters, does not abide our slowness and our sloth. It will not fill our hearts if we keep standing by the window with the excuse of waiting for the right time. Vocation is today! The Christian mission is now! Each one of us is called - whether to the lay life in marriage, to the priestly life in the ordained ministry, or to a life of special consecration - in order to become a witness of the Lord, here and now.

This "today" that Jesus proclaimed assures us that God continues to "come down" to save our human family and to make us sharers in his mission. The Lord continues to call others to live with him and to follow him in a relationship of particular closeness. He continues to call others to serve him directly. If he lets us realize that he is calling us to consecrate ourselves totally to his kingdom, then we should have no fear! It is beautiful - and a great grace - to be completely and forever consecrated to God and the service of our brothers and sisters.

Today the Lord continues to call others to follow him. We should not wait to be perfect in order to respond with our generous "yes", nor be fearful of our limitations and sins, but instead open our hearts to the voice of the Lord. To listen to that voice, to discern our personal mission in the Church and the world, and at last to live it in the today that God gives us.

Download & Sync Parish Calendar. The parish calendar of events and activities is available for download from the Parish Website. It is updated on a daily basis with new events, Mass intentions and activities. If you use a digital calendar on your mobile or Ipad, it is very easy to include the calendar in your own calendar by simply hitting the + button located on the parish homepage: www.stmichaelsmeadowbank.org.au

Catechist Gathering. On behalf of your CCD Parish Catechist Support team, I invite you to join Bishop Tony Randazzo at our next Catechist Gathering.

When: Monday 30 April, 10.30am-1.30pm (Morning tea will be served from 10am)

Where: Lidcombe Parish Hall (vehicle entry via 3 Keating St, Lidcombe, or 300 metres from Lidcombe train station, north side of the tracks)

10.30-11.30 Eileen O'Connor presentation by Bishop Tony Randazzo

Bishop Tony Randazzo, Auxiliary Bishop of Sydney, presents our local girl and saint in waiting, Eileen O'Connor, and her inspiring life during this Year of Youth. Who is Eileen O'Connor, why is she an inspiration, how is she relevant to different age-groups today?

The Year of Youth – what's on and what can we invite young people to?

Stewardship of God's Gifts - Parish Financial Report 2017.

Available for collection at the rear of the Church.

The Parish Finance Committee and several Parish leaders have helped Fr James to produce a financial report on the current financial situation of the parish.

It includes detailed income and expenditure analysis from the last 4 years and provides a budget for this financial year. There are also several testimonies from parishioners involved in different ministries in our parish. It isn't just numbers! Please take a report and prayerfully consider the ways you may be able to assist with the work of the Church. Copies are available at the doors of the Church and on the parish website.

Collections Update from last Sunday (15 Apr)

Thank you for the generosity of all parishioners.

1st Collection (to assist clergy): \$1054 (\$250 under target)

2nd Collection (for parish costs): \$1890 (\$10 under target)

For the period from July 2017 to end of March 2018, the parish has raised \$1600 less than the budgeted amounts for the 2nd collection and envelopes. We are on target with the first collection. Thank you once again for your generosity.

ANZAC DAY Memorial Mass

On Wednesday 25th April, there will be a special ANZAC Day Mass at 9.15am. All welcome.

FIRST FRIDAY Mass - Every Month at 7pm

The next First Friday Mass in honour of the Sacred Heart of Jesus is on Friday 4th May at 7pm. There will be pizza and fellowship in the Parish Hall following the Mass. Please invite friends to attend. All welcome. May is a special month in honour of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Sacramental Programs 2018

All important sacramental program dates are available for download from the Parish Website. Dates are also included in the downloadable parish calendar.

First Holy Communion program.

The sacrament of First Holy Communion will be celebrated this year at the following Masses:

Saturday 16 and 23 June at 6.00pm Mass

Sunday 17 and 24 June at 10.00am Mass

Commitment Masses will occur on 5 & 6 May, with the first session beginning on 8 May. For more information please contact Marisa on 0402 902 871, Liz on 0412 802 025 or email

sacraments@stmichaelsmeadowbank.org.au

Annual May Pilgrimage at Mt Schoenstatt Mulgoa

This year is the Golden Jubilee 50th Year Celebration of the Shrine on **20 May 2018 Pentecost Sunday.**

9:30 Arrival ~ Sacrament of Reconciliation available in the Family Hall

9:45 Celebrating our Shrine: 50 Years of Blessings

10:30 Jubilee Mass celebrated by **Anthony Fisher OP** with

Recommissioning of the Pilgrim Mother Coordinators

12:15 Lunch — BYO or purchase from the Multicultural Food Stalls

2:00 Thanksgiving Devotion and Benediction

Please arrive early for parking purposes. BYO chairs and picnic rugs. For more info call 02 4773 8338

New Votive Candle Stand -Positive Feedback received. Donation opportunity!

The new votive candle stand trial has gone very well with many positive responses. Usage is also very positive. The Parish is now seeking a possible donor so that the Parish can keep the stand and to help offset the purchase cost. If you are interested in donating the candle stand, please speak with Fr James.

Vatican Astronomer. Br Guy Consolmagno

SJ, the Vatican Astronomer, will visit the Diocese of Broken Bay in late April for a series of presentations about faith and science. He says, "The joy we get from the universe is very much a joy from the Creator who delights in sharing creation with us." All are most welcome to the following two free public events. Registrations are essential.

Saturday 28 April 10.00am at Waitara: "In Awe of the Universe: Connecting Science and Faith"

Details and RSVP: www.trybooking.com/UCJJ

Monday 30 April: "Looking Up at the Stars: We're all Connected"

7.00pm at Tuggerah (with viewing of the night sky)

Details and RSVP: www.trybooking.com/UCJL

Enquiries: www.dbb.org.au f

aith.formation@dbb.org.au or Cristina Gomez 9847 0428



NEXT WEEKEND

Roster: 28 / 29 April 2018

Time	Acolyte	Readers	Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion
6:00PM Vigil	Jim Lemcke	Colleen Maguire Faby Lobo	1 Prescilla Luzon 2 Sue Metzmacher 3 Pam Keenan 4 Paul Thambyah 5 Liz Paricka 6 Sunitha Victor
8:00AM	Stephen Topple	Gemma Evesson Chris Twomey	Violet Moussa Mel Talisayon
10:00AM	John Fillion	Leony Hamor Nelyn Gasataya	1 Maureen Richardson 2 Joan D'Souzer 3 Lala Tabuso 4 Joel Tabuso 5 Celeste Villarente 6 Michael Dunkin



Prayer to St Michael the Archangel.

Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in the day of battle. Be our safeguard against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; and do thou, O Prince of the heavenly host, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who wander through the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

Parish Weekly Mass Offerings

- Saturday 21st April 2018 9:15am**
Mass of Remembrance for George Peres Da Costa
 - Tuesday 24th April 2018 9:15am**
Mass of Remembrance for Anthony Bui
 - Wednesday 25th April 2018 9:15am**
Mass of Remembrance for the parents of Youssef Bey Karam
 - Thursday 26th April 2018 9:15am**
Mass of Remembrance for Sr Bernadette O'Neill RSJ
 - Friday 27th April 2018 9:15am**
Thanksgiving Mass for Anne Ryan, Budie, Finbar & Masy Roche, Sister Marie Carson, Tony & Rhonda Tante
 - Saturday 28th April 2018 9:15am**
Mass of Remembrance for Angela Sequeira
- NOTE: ONLY ONE MASS OFFERING IS PERMITTED PER DAY**

If you desire a Mass offered, please contact the Office to request a specific day well in advance. If a day is already taken, it is possible for several names to be mentioned on significant anniversaries and the Mass offered at the next available day.

Baptism: Annabel

Parents: John & Vanessa
Date: 22 April At: 10am



Request for Prayers

RECENTLY DECEASED: Pilar Calvo

Roster for Church Cleaners

For the month of April, August and December
Cherie Cavaleri, Christina Spararo Dutturi
Moussa and Rose El Bayeh & Robyn Meehan
LINEN- Maureen Richardson & Joan D'Souza
VACUUM ROSTER- Sean Van Wyk

Become a Catechist Now.

All Christians are called through our baptism to teach and help bring others to the knowledge and love of Jesus Christ. A rewarding and outreach activity is to become a Catechist by sharing your faith with some bright young children in our local public schools. Ring **Judith Orrock on 98742825** and you are nearly there. You will be trained in conducting a class, what to teach and provided with all teaching materials to make you a successful catechist.



Liturgy for this week (23- 29 April 2018)

Sacraments:

Reconciliation: Saturdays 5:15pm-5:50pm

Devotions: Prayer for Priests: 8:45am every 1st Saturday

Morning Prayer (Lauds) 7:40AM every Sunday

Rosary: 8:50am on weekdays before the Mass (except Friday)
Friday before Mass : **Silent Prayer**

Holy Hour and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:

8:15am-9:15am every Friday

8:15am-9:15am every Saturday (with Benediction at 9.05am)

Divine Mercy Novena & Chaplet - Wednesdays after AM Mass

Weekday Masses:

9:15am - Monday (Communion Service)

9:15am - Tuesday to Saturday

Weekend Masses:

6:00pm - Saturday Vigil Mass

8:00am & 10:00am - Sunday (*Children's Liturgy at 10am Mass*)

The Piety Stall will be open after all masses this weekend. There are still some small bottles available for those who want to take home some Easter Holy water.

WORLD MEETING OF FAMILIES QUOTE

The covenant of love lived by the Holy Family of Nazareth illuminates the principle which gives shape to every family, and enables it better to face the trials of life. On this basis, every family despite its weaknesses can become a light for the world.

FEASTS & SAINTS OF THE WEEK.

MON 23 APR Saint George, Martyr

Saint Adalbert of Prague, Bishop, Martyr

TUE 24 APR Saint Fidelis of Sigmaringen, Priest, Martyr

WED 25 APR Anzac Day

THU 26 APR SAINT MARK, EVANGELIST Feast

SAT 28 APR Saint Peter Chanel, Priest, Martyr

Saint Louis Marie Grignon de Montfort, Priest

Altar Society Needs Urgent Help: We are in need of more helpers in the Church to clean, do flowers and vacuum. Contact Marie Bennett Urgently on 0447 830 551.



St Michael's Church, Meadowbank

A copy of this bulletin is also available from the FB Page.